



METHODIST HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Supporting The Next Generation of Care

March 17, 2009

Representative David Dreier (CA-26)
233 Cannon HOB
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Dreier:

Methodist Hospital of Southern California is most grateful for the opportunity to apply for funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) account in the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bill. Methodist Hospital, a stand alone medical facility, is located in Arcadia, California.

Methodist Hospital is an interfaith, multicultural, regional medical care center that serves the growing, diverse, communities of the central San Gabriel Valley. For more than 100 years, Methodist Hospital has pursued its mission of providing not just medical care, but compassionate, comprehensive health care to the communities it serves. Methodist Hospital is governed by an uncompensated volunteer board and is fully accredited, not-for-profit 460 bed acute care hospital with more than 600 medical staff members representing 60 specialty and sub-specialty areas.

We are requesting \$1,300,000 in funding to improve patient safety through implementation of a computerized provider order entry (CPOE) system. CPOE systems, which provide for electronic entry and routing of medication and other treatment orders, have been shown to increase patient safety by reducing medication mistakes by 80% to 90% while simultaneously helping hospitals reduce costs.

The funding of a CPOE system is an outstanding use of taxpayer funds because it will help Methodist Hospital achieve increased patient safety, improve interoperability of patient records between facilities, and reduce costs for documentation and billing. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the Health Resources and Services Administration Account.

If you need further information, please contact me at the office by phone at 626-821-2315 or e-mail at sue.francis@methodisthospital.org or Debbi Cordano, Director, by phone at 626-821-2319 or e-mail at debbi.cordano@methodisthospital.org.

Sincerely,

Sue A. Francis
President
Methodist Hospital Foundation